training, up-gradation of skills and improvement in tool-kits, equipments and production techniques. The resources have been accordingly directed through the plan porgrammes towards achieving this objective.

Supreme court's direction on child labour

3123. DR. ABRAR AHMED:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court's direction regarding the manner in which the children working in hazardous occupations, are to be withdrawn from work and rehabilitated, are strictly followed by all the State Governments;

(b) whether -Government monitor the action taken by the State Governments in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The implementation of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court is being monitored by the Government and compliance of the directions have been reported in the form of Affidavits on 05.12.1997, 21 -12-1999,04-12-2000, and 04.07.2001 to the Hon'ble Court on the basis of the information received from the State/UT Governments.

Assistance to workers abroad

3124. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of assistance provided to Indian workers in foreign countries once they are in distress, and

(b) the help provided to such workers during the last two years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Indian workers in distress abroad are provided temporary relief for meeting their financial needs in times of extreme difficulty. They are also assisted in their repatriation. Additionally, some

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.